

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 3-20-51-11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 3-19-51

WEATHER Temperatures averaged much below normal in the east to only slightly below in the west, with cold weather at the beginning and again at the end of the week, and seasonable temperatures during the middle. There was much cold and disagreeable wind. Light to moderate freezing rain changing to blowing and drifting snow fell over the eastern portion, diminishing to very light over most of the central portion, while the west received no precipitation. Strong winds caused considerable blowing of soil in the Panhandle.

CROPS Additional moisture in eastern Nebraska and some in central Nebraska improved the condition for wheat. Except for a few localities, western Nebraska is still dry. Reports from the Panhandle indicate some damage to wheat from dry top soil and high winds last week, especially from Kimball, Morrill, parts of Cheyenne, Garden and Dawes counties. There was some improvement in wheat in the southwest in the counties receiving moisture previously but reports from Dundy, Hitchcock, Red Willow, Hayes and Frontier are unfavorable because of the continued lack of moisture.

According to the March planting intentions survey, the acreage of corn fell far below that requested by the U.S.D.A. A total of 7,950,000 acres or a 16% increase was suggested but the survey indicated only a 3% increase or 7,048,000 acres. The intended planting of sorghum was also below the suggested acreage, while the intended planting of the other crops was generally quite close to the acreage suggested, except tame hay which shows an increase of 1% instead of a suggested decrease of 8%.

There could still be a considerable shift in planting from present intentions. Some of the 2,400,000 acres of plow land pasture could be plowed up for corn. It is unlikely there will be any reduction in tame hay, since this might interfere with holding the present record level of cattle production. Because of the great need for more feed grain, some further increase in acreage of corn is both possible and probable.

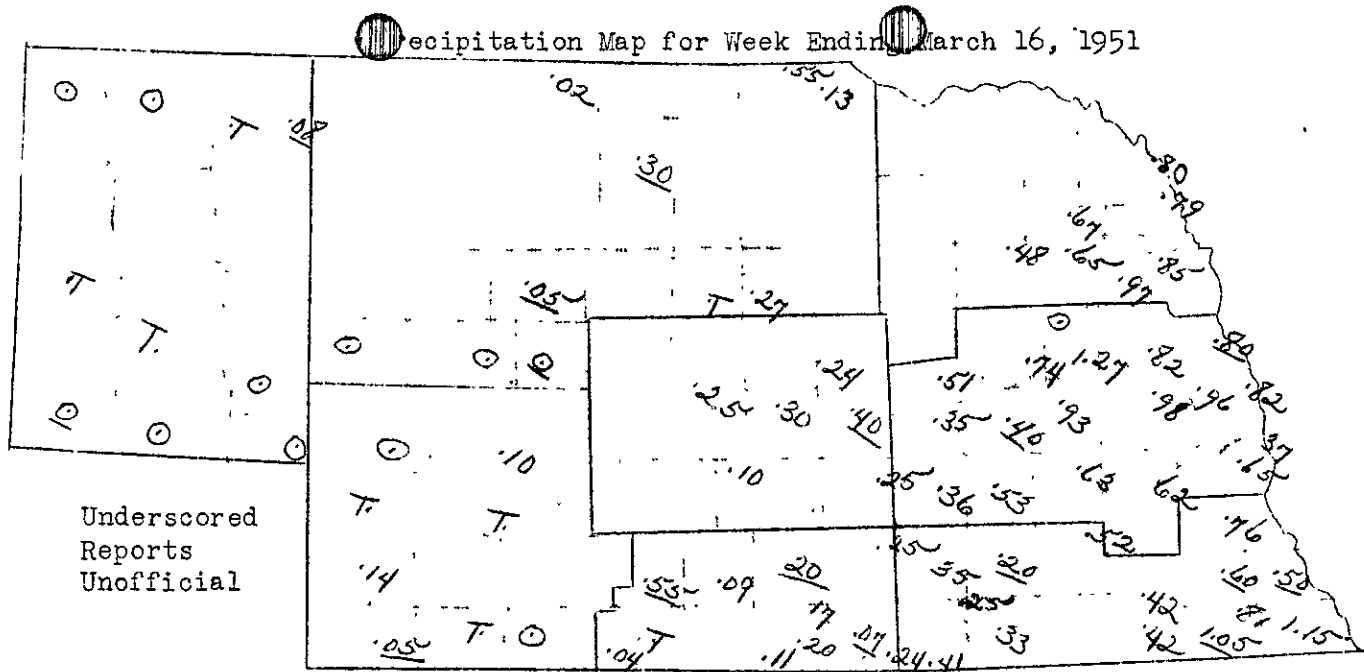
Cold wet weather in the eastern two-thirds of the State has delayed farm field work. At present it appears that seeding of oats may be behind the usual time. Stocks of merchantable potatoes on March 1 totaled 2,650,000 bushels or about a million bushels above the quantity on hand a year ago. Carlot shipments of potatoes are about 1,500 cars above shipments to date a year ago. Also, more potatoes moved by truck this season than last season.

LIVESTOCK Sandhills need moisture to start the spring pastures. Some blow-outs are showing up because of winter drouth and high winds. The drop in temperatures last week was unfavorable for calving and farrowing. However, Seward county reports 111 pigs saved from 10 sows.

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle to Nebraska country points in February totaled 33,645 head or an increase of 50% over February 1950. The cumulative total for January and February shows an increase of 44%. The 8 Cornbelt States including Nebraska show an 8% increase for February and a 23% increase for January and February combined. February shipments of sheep and lambs to Nebraska country points totaled 73,164 head, an increase of 62% over February a year ago. The cumulative total for January and February shows an increase of 49%. For the 8 Cornbelt States there was an increase of 7% during February and only 1% for January and February combined compared to the same months a year ago.

Weather Bureau Telegraphic Report of Precipitation for Week Ending March 19, 1951

<u>Eastern Division</u>	<u>Central Division</u>	<u>Western Division</u>
Grand Island .18	Burwell .27	Chadron 0
Lincoln .20	North Platte .08	Imperial 0
Norfolk .38	Valentine .02	Scottsbluff 0
Omaha .25		Sidney 0
Sioux City .28		



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (For 24 hours ending 6:30 a.m.)

		MARCH													
		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th		18th		19th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	27	1	41	20	44	25	56	30	53	18	36	9	30	9
	Scottsbluff	38	8	47	27	50	23	57	32	49	19	34	16	32	17
	Sidney	34	0	45	25	47	23	57	40	54	21	36	10	30	12
N-C	Burwell	22	6	27	15	32	22	42	29	52	28	31	14	25	12
	Valentine	17	- 2	28	13	30	18	47	34	48	26	31	11	23	8
NE	Norfolk	--	--	21	15	29	21	34	26	39	24	30	12	22	8
	Sioux City	19	10	24	16	29	12	37	12	36	25	30	11	23	8
CEN.	Grand Island	24	10	26	18	38	26	44	28	47	25	32	17	27	11
E-C	Lincoln	22	14	25	22	34	21	36	28	41	27	32	17	25	16
	Omaha	21	14	24	20	29	16	35	20	38	27	33	15	26	12
SW	North Platte	32	7	36	18	40	22	51	32	55	29	32	14	30	12

(Issued by the Weather Bureau and the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture)

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